

DEAR TRAVEL PARTNERS,

Let me begin by personally thanking you for standing by The Bahamas when we need your support most. As you can imagine, we are still reeling from the devastation Hurricane Dorian brought to our beautiful, beloved country. Suffice it to say, there is not one person here, or abroad, who has not been touched by this tragedy. We have family, friends, and colleagues with ties to both Abaco and Freeport. The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation is praying for the safety of our countrymen and women on these islands, and we will continue supporting rescue efforts by our emergency responders.

In the midst of all of the devastation, we pledge continued support for our tourism industry the key economic engine that fuels our country. Yes, we have had the good fortune of a very robust period in our tourism sector, but we must now focus on redoubling our efforts to sustain the high levels of visitor arrivals. These steps help us recover and rebuild The Abacos and Freeport.

Throughout Hurricane Dorian, we have worked closely to monitor and update media around the world. Now that the storm has left our shores, we are working tirelessly to communicate that 14 other island destinations provide travellers an exceptional experience. We are asking our travel partners, like private pilots, to consider keeping their flight plans to the islands that were not affected. Rest assured that our hotels and partners on those islands are standing by to deliver a one-of-a-kind vacation experience as only The Bahamas can.

Here is a listing of islands that were not impacted by Hurricane Dorian. In the Northwest Bahamas: Nassau, neighbouring Paradise Island, Eleuthera, Harbour Island, Andros, Bimini, and The Berry Islands. In Southeastern and Central Bahamas: The Exumas, Cat Island, San Salvador, Rum Cay, Long Island, Acklins/Crooked Island, Mayaguana, and Inagua.

In the days, and weeks ahead, we will be working to reach out to news desks, producers, editors, writers, and influencers across a variety of markets to continue providing updates while reinforcing information relevant to the islands not impacted. We will use every communication mechanism and digital channel available to target consumers with key messages to preserve business already on the books and to ensure that we remain a top destination for future travel plans.

We will update you regularly on our efforts. As our partner, we ask that you continue to consider the unaffected islands a top destination for travel to the Caribbean. The best way of helping The Bahamas is by travelling to The Bahamas. We also ask you to continue directing relief enquiries to www.bahamas.com/relief. Finally, please pray for the people of The Abacos and Freeport. They need your help more than ever.

We appreciate your prayers, your support, and your continued partnership.

Heartfelt thanks from the Bahamian people.

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The Honourable Dionisio D'Aguilar, Minister of Tourism and Aviation The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation